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**Cancer Research**
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## BREAKING ADVANCES

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## REVIEW

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## PRIORITY REPORTS

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<td>Juanqi Yang, Biswanath Maity, Jie Huang, Zhan Gao, Adele Stewart, Robert M. Weiss, Mark E. Anderson, and Rory A. Fisher</td>
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<td><strong>Précis:</strong> This important study suggests a rational approach to limiting the well-known cardiotoxic effects of doxorubicin (adriamycin), one of the most effective and widely used cytotoxic chemotherapy drugs for cancer treatment.</td>
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<td>Gang Guo, Luis Marrero, Paulo Rodriguez, Luis Del Valle, Augusto Ochoa, and Yan Cui</td>
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<td><strong>Précis:</strong> Findings reveal a previously unappreciated function for p53 in maintaining an immunological microenvironment that can suppress tumorigenesis and progression.</td>
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## CLINICAL STUDIES

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<td><strong>Précis:</strong> Vaccination of nasopharyngeal carcinoma patients targeting two pathogenic viral antigens produces potent immune responses after they have completed chemothero.</td>
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## INTEGRATED SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES

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<td><strong>Précis:</strong> This study lays the foundation for the development of a novel ultrasound-based imaging approach for earlier detection of breast cancer and paves the way for translational clinical trials in the future.</td>
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## MICROENVIRONMENT AND IMMUNOLOGY

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<td><strong>Précis:</strong> The potency of a therapeutic siRNA can be increased by a parallel strategy to combinatorially activate an RNA helicase that triggers inflammatory responses to double-stranded viral RNA, with implications for understanding how to reprogram the tumor microenvironment to destroy tumor cells.</td>
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LOX-Mediated Collagen Crosslinking Is Responsible for Fibrosis-Enhanced Metastasis

Précis: The fibrotic status of a metastatic niche that is determined by the extracellular matrix plays a pivotal role in determining colonization of new sites by circulating tumor cells.

Evidence for a Role of the PD-1:PD-L1 Pathway in Immune Resistance of HPV-Associated Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

Précis: HPV-associated oropharyngeal cancers, which are increasing in incidence in the developed world, evade immune surveillance through an escape pathway that is actively being targeted in clinical trials.

IFN-γ-Mediated Downregulation of LXA4 Is Necessary for the Maintenance of Nonresolving Inflammation and Papilloma Persistence

Précis: By helping resolve an inflammatory response, IFNγ blockade can promote tumor regression by reprogramming the inflammatory microenvironment.

Myeloid-Specific Expression of Ron Receptor Kinase Promotes Prostate Tumor Growth

Précis: This study suggests a new strategy to treat prostate tumors, by blocking a tyrosine kinase that supports tumor-associated macrophages that drive immune escape.

HLA-Restricted CTL That Are Specific for the Immune Checkpoint Ligand PD-L1 Occur with High Frequency in Cancer Patients

Précis: PD-L1-specific cytotoxic T cells described for the first time in this study may be useful to harness for cancer immunotherapy to defeat mechanisms of immune escape used in various cancers mediated by the PD1 pathway.

A Chimeric Receptor with NKG2D Specificity Enhances Natural Killer Cell Activation and Killing of Tumor Cells

Précis: Findings illustrate how to increase the antitumor efficacy of NK cell therapy, a strategy that may be used to fight nearly any kind of human cancer.

Transcription Factor YY1 Contributes to Tumor Growth by Stabilizing Hypoxia Factor HIF-1α in a p53-Independent Manner

Précis: An E3 ubiquitin ligase in the TGF-β signaling pathway is not required to regulate tumor growth but to colonize metastasis sites, suggesting novel antimetastatic strategies.

Phosphorylation of Ribosomal Protein S6 Attenuates DNA Damage and Tumor Suppression during Development of Pancreatic Cancer

Précis: Findings reveal that a key mTOR effector molecule is crucial for initiation of K-Ras-induced pancreatic cancers, illuminating the centrality of this mTOR pathway to evade p53-mediated tumor suppression in this setting.
Dormant Cancer Cells Contribute to Residual Disease in a Model of Reversible Pancreatic Cancer


Proliferation-Independent Control of Tumor Glycolysis by PDGFR-Mediated AKT Activation

Cong Ran, Huan Liu, Yasuyuki Hitoshi, and Mark A. Israel

Precis: Findings argue that tyrosine kinase growth factor signaling directly affects glucose metabolism in glioma and is not a secondary response to enhanced proliferation, as suggested in other cancer models.

Telomere Length and Telomerase Activity Impact the UV Sensitivity Syndrome Xeroderma Pigmentosum C

Gerline J. Stout and Maria A. Blasco

Precis: Findings reveal a role for the DNA repair protein XPC in telomere stability and how activation occurs for the ALT pathway of telomere maintenance, a broadly important aspect of tumor formation.

xCT Inhibition Depletes CD44v-Expressing Tumor Cells That Are Resistant to EGFR-Targeted Therapy in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

Momoko Yoshikawa, Kenji Tsuchihashi, Takatsugu Ishimoto, Tohshiumi Yae, Takeshi Motohara, Eiji Sugihara, Nobuyuki Onishi, Takashi Masuko, Kunio Yoshizawa, Shuichi Kashawir, Makio Mukai, Seiji Asoda, Hiromasa Kawana, Taneaki Nakagawa, Hideyuki Saya, and Osamu Watanaga

Precis: Cells that express variant isoforms of the stem cell-determining factor CD44 rely on the activity of a cystine transporter subunit that affects redox status and EGFR function.

MicroRNA-Related Genetic Variants Associated with Clinical Outcomes in Early-Stage Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer Patients

Xia Pu, Jack A. Roth, Michelle A.T. Hildebrandt, Yuanqing Ye, Hua Wei, John D. Minna, Scott M. Lippman, and Xifeng Wu

Precis: This large study of non-small cell lung cancer suggests that miRNA-related polymorphisms can predict clinical outcomes at a level that may be superior to other markers developed previously.

Genetic Variation in Transforming Growth Factor Beta 1 and Mammographic Density in Singapore Chinese Women

Eunju Jung Lee, David Van den Berg, Chris Hsu, Giske Ursin, Woon-Puay Koh, Jian-Min Yuan, Daniel O. Stram, Mimi C. Yu, and Anna H. Wu

Precis: Host genetic polymorphisms in a key growth factor in breast cancer may help identify women at an increased risk of breast cancer.

Identification of Inherited Genetic Variations Influencing Prognosis in Early-Onset Breast Cancer

Sajjad Rafiq, William Tapper, Andrew Collins, Solia Khan, Ioannis Politopoulos, Sue Gerty, Carl Blomqvist, Fergus J. Couch, Helo Nevanlinna, Jianjun Liu, and Diana Eccles

Precis: This study maps host genetic variations that affect risks of poor prognosis in early onset breast cancer patients, with implications for how aggressive treatments should be used to improve survival outcomes.

Focused Ultrasound Delivers Targeted Immune Cells to Metastatic Brain Tumors

Ryan Atkins, Alison Burgess, Milan Ganguly, Giulio Francia, Robert Kerbel, Winfried S. Wels, and Kullervo Hynnen

Precis: Noninvasive MR-guided focused ultrasound allows targeted natural killer cells to circumvent the blood-brain barrier and treat HER2-amplified breast metastasis in the brain.

Caveolin-1–LRP6 Signaling Module Stimulates Aerobic Glycolysis in Prostate Cancer

Salahaldin A. Tahir, Guang Yang, Alexei Goltsov, Ki-Duk Song, Chengzhen Ren, Jianxian Wang, Wenjun Chang, and Timothy C. Thompson

Precis: This study offers mechanistic insights into how aerobic glycolysis is increased in prostate cancer, possibly revealing critical targets for effective antimetabolic therapy in this setting.
Mixed Lineage Kinase MLK4 Is Activated in Colorectal Cancers Where It Synergistically Cooperates with Activated RAS Signaling in Driving Tumorigenesis

Miriam Martini, Mariangela Russo, Simona Lamba, Elisa Vitielo, Emily Hannah Crowley, Francesco Sassi, Davide Romanelli, Milo Frattini, Antonio Marchetti, and Alberto Bardelli

Precise: Findings support the development of small molecule inhibitors of the kinase MLK4 to treat the significant number of KRAS-mutant colorectal cancers that arise in humans.

A Novel Inhibitor of STAT3 Homodimerization Selectively Suppresses STAT3 Activity and Malignant Transformation

Xiaolei Zhang, Ying Sun, Roberta Pireddu, Hua Yang, Murali R. Lawrentz, Wayne C. Guida, Nicholas J. Lawrence, and Said M. Sebti

Precise: STAT3 provides critical support in cancer cells and the immune microenvironment in tumors, but bioactive small molecule inhibitors that offer tractable qualities for clinical translation have been elusive.

Alkaline Phosphatase ALPPL-2 Is a Novel Pancreatic Carcinoma-Associated Protein

Pooja Dua, Hye Suk Kang, Seung-Mo Hong, Qin-Sound Tsao, Syoum Kim, and Dong-ki Lee

Precise: An aptamer selection strategy identifies an enzyme that may be useful for blood-based detection of pancreatic cancer.

mTOR Complex 2 Is Involved in Regulation of Cbl-Dependent c-FLIP Degradation and Sensitivity of TRAIL-Induced Apoptosis

Liquan Zhao, Ping Yue, Fadlo R. Khuri, and Shi-Yong Sun

Precise: Findings show how mTORC2 stabilizes the FLIP apoptotic regulators, thereby connecting mTORC2 signaling to death receptor-mediated apoptosis.

Phenotypic Profiling of DPYD Variations Relevant to 5-Fluourouracil Sensitivity Using Real-time Cellular Analysis and In Vitro Measurement of Enzyme Activity

Steven M. Offer, Natalie J. Wegner, Croix Fossum, Kangsheng Wang, and Robert B. Diasio

Precise: An understanding of the contribution of DPYD alleles to 5-FU toxicity will facilitate the generation of clinically relevant predictive tests and promote the individualization of treatment based on genotype.

Involvement of Lyn and the Atypical Kinase SgK269/PEAK1 in a Basal Breast Cancer Signaling Pathway


Precise: This study addresses a rationale to target basal breast cancers, also known as triple negative breast cancers, which present a major clinical challenge due to their aggressive nature and lack of targeted treatments.

FOX02 Expression Links Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition and Stem Cell Properties in Breast Cancer

Brett G. Hollier, Agata A. Tinnirello, Steven J. Werden, Kurt W. Evans, Joseph H. Taube, Tapasree Roy Sarkar, Nathalie Sphyris, Maryam Shariati, Sreedevi V. Kumar, Venkata L. Battula, Jason I. Herschkowitz, Rudy Guerra, Jeffrey T. Chang, Naoyuki Miura, Jeffrey M. Rosen, and Sendurai A. Mani

Precise: Findings of this study suggest a rational new target for anti-EMT therapy of cancer stem cells, perhaps relevant to many types of malignancy.

Characterization of a Novel PERK Kinase Inhibitor with Antitumor and Antiangiogenic Activity

Charity Atkins, Qi Liu, Elisabeth Minthorn, Shu-Yun Zhang, David J. Figueroa, Katherine Moss, Thomas R. Stanley, Brent Sanders, Aaron Goetz, Nathan Gaul, Anthony E. Choudhury, Hasan Alsaid, Beat M. Jucker, Jeffrey M. Axtens, and Rakesh Kumar

Precise: Inhibition of PERK kinase, which controls the unfolded protein response (UPR), a near universally elevated process in cancer cells, was also found unexpectedly to affect amino acid metabolism, blood vessel density, and vascular perfusion in tumors.

Genetic Amplification of the NOTCH Modulator LNX2 Upregulates the WNT/β-Catenin Pathway in Colorectal Cancer

Jordi Camps, Jason J. Pitt, Georg Emons, Amanda B. Hummon, Chanelle M. Case, Marian Grade, Tamara L. Jones, Quang T. Nguyen, B. Michael Ghadimi, Tim Beissbarth, Michael J. Dillilipantionio, Natasha J. Caplen, and Thomas Ried

Precise: Notch and Wnt signaling pathways are upregulated by overexpression of a ligand for the endocytic adaptor protein Numb, a Notch inhibitory protein, coordinate stimulating both of these critical oncogenic pathways in colorectal cancer.
ABOUT THE COVER

Inactivation of the tumor suppressor p53 frequently occurs in tumors and tumor-associated stromal cells. This study shows that p53 dysfunction in tumor-associated stroma of B16F1 melanoma favors tumor establishment and progression by promoting an inflammatory microenvironment. Using immunofluorescence, it was found that lymphoid-like fibroblastic reticular cells, which express ER-TR7 (green), GP38 (red), and a-SMA (blue), were markedly expanded in the tumor microenvironment lacking functional p53. The expansion of this specialized stromal network was associated with augmented myeloid derived suppressor cells and angiogenesis. For details, see the article by Guo and colleagues on page 1668.